Yukon

Government of Yukon

Yukon Government NEWS release

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Regulation of Healthcare Professionals Proposed

WHITEHORSE – Public consultation has begun on regulations for two groups of Yukon healthcare professionals: psychiatric nurses and medical laboratory technologists.

"The Government of Yukon is committed to ensuring Yukoners receive the high quality healthcare Canadians can expect elsewhere," Community Services Minister Glenn Hart said. "Setting standards of practice for healthcare professionals helps Yukon recruit and retain the qualified healthcare professionals we need to meet public expectations for healthcare services."

Psychiatric nursing and medical laboratory technology are currently unregulated in Yukon. Following the creation of the Health Professions Act in 2003, physiotherapists were the first group to work with the Yukon government to develop regulations that now govern their standards of practice, ethics and education requirements.

The public consultation began April 25 and is designed to review draft regulations on similar professional standards and requirements for psychiatric nurses and medical laboratory technologists.

These regulations were developed by two working groups - one consisting of Yukon psychiatric nurses, the other of Yukon medical laboratory technologists, working with staff from Community Services

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and Health and Social Services. Other Canadian regulators and professional organizations provided regulatory information and additional expertise as the working groups collected, reviewed and assessed various models of legislation and bylaws to come up with proposed regulations.

Copies of the consultation packages sent to stakeholder groups are available on line at **www.community.gov.yk.ca** or by telephone at 667-5111 or toll free outside Whitehorse at 1-800-661-0408, ext. 5111. Written comments are invited until June 6.

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